been passed, and in the forest reservations that have since been effected, their privileges have not at all been respected. Malaria largely prevails in the malnad owing to the existence of dense forests.

(2) In places like the Kabbanad magani where there are dense forests, the clearing of forest growth should be freely permitted. Ever since kumri cultivation has been stopped, the tract is being denuded of its population. Owing to the difficulties of transport, it is not possible to extract any timber from these forests. They do not also contain any useful timber. If necessary, only the forests bordering on the ghats may be reserved.

Reply of Government.—The necessity for the reservation of any particular area is carefully considered before it is notified for settlement and the requirements of agriculture and the interests of the raiyats are always kept in view before the sanction of Government is given to the reservation. The Forest Settlement Officer is also required to make a liberal provision for grazing and for the other rights and privileges enjoyed by the people. Reservation is necessary to secure an equal distribution of rainfall. in any particular locality there has been excessive reservation, the matter may be represented when the block is selected for reservation and notified.

SUBJECT No. 133.

Agency for the sale of Mysore timber.

(a) Mr. K. Shankarnarayan Rao, Nagar Sabha.
(b) Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The system of appointing a travelling agent to procure sales of Government timber seems to entail much expenditure on the State. Either this system may be abolished altogether in view of the fact that the denudation of forests affects the rainfall, or timber depôts may be opened at places which stand in need of a supply of timber.

(*b*) It is requested that the Government may be pleased to state if any commission agent is employed to sell Mysore timber in Egypt; if so, what commission is paid to him and what commission was paid to such an agent during 1907-08. It seems to be more economical to open a depôt there and place a Ranger in charge of it.

Reply of Government.—The travelling agent has been appointed to study outside markets and see if there is any demand for Mysore timber. In Egypt there seems to be such a demand and the sale of timber there promises to be profitable. The timber is also of varieties, such as nandi, dindiga and thadasalu for which there is not much local demand. The question of investigating the causes which have led to a diminution in the demand for sandal in China and Japan is engaging attention. After sufficient experience of the market is gained, the question whether it will be more profitable for the Forest Department to sell directly or through an agent will be

considered. There is no ground for the assertion that the forests will be overworked, if outside markets are supplied.

SUBJECT No. 134.

Credit sale of forest produce to owners of work-shops on proper security.

Messrs. Rangiengar, Venkatakrishnaiya, Hassan Ali Beg and Madappa, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Timber and other forest produce may be sold on credit to the owners of work-shops on proper security.

Reply of Government.—This is a matter within the discretion of the Conservator. According to the rules there is no objection to three months' credit being given, if proper security is furnished.

SUBJECT No. 135.

Abolition of grazing fees.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The levy of grazing fees by the Forest Department causes great hardship to the poor raiyats and their cattle. The difficulties of grazing cattle in forests are better imagined than described. Grazing fees may be abolished and a more equitable treatment of cattle ordered with a view to secure the prosperity and well-being of the raiyats and their live-stock.

It was stated that the representation chiefly referred to the Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Reply of Government.—The grazing fees now levied are not high and no further orders are necessary.

SUBJECT No. 136.

Reduction of hulbanni in State Forests.

Mr S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Hulbanni is now levied at the rates of 4 annas and 8 annas per head of cattle in State Forests. As these rates are high, the old rates of one anna and two annas may be revived. It appears that in the Karadibetta State Forest the inhabitants of some villages are allowed to graze their cattle at the rate of one and two annas per head. This concession may be extended to other villages also, as in the semi-malnad villages have not sufficient gomal land and therefore cattle stray into the State Forests. A reduction of rates will increase the income and lessen the opportunities for fraud on the part of the villagers and the officials.

Reply of Government.—The rates cannot be reduced as ample provision has been otherwise made for the grazing land required for each village.

SUBJECT No. 137.

Grazing rights in State Forests.

Mr. A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly grazing was allowed in State Forests on the payment of fees at a fixed rate per head of cattle. The right of grazing is now sold by public auction, and a rich man purchases the right and levies fees from poor raiyats at one rupee a month for allowing their cattle to graze in the forests. As this is a source of great hardship, grazing may be allowed on the payment of the prescribed fees.

Reply of Government.—The system is different from that of levying lumpsum grazing fees in force in the Chitaldrug District. The auctioning of grazing is likely to affect the poorer classes of raiyats. The matter will therefore be referred to the Conservator for consideration as to why the practice should not be put a stop to and fees